

Note: President Bush spoke at 11:58 a.m. on the South Lawn at the White House, upon his return from Camp David, MD. In his remarks, he referred to Thomas S. Foley, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and President Saddam Hussein of Iraq. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Statement by Press Secretary Fitzwater on the Designation of the Arabian Peninsula as a Combat Zone

January 21, 1991

The President today signed an Executive order designating the Arabian Peninsula areas, airspace, and adjacent waters as a combat zone. This designation means that for Federal tax purposes military pay received by enlisted personnel while serving in the combat zone will be exempt from income tax. For commissioned officers in the combat zone the exclusion is limited

to \$500 a month.

In addition, members of the armed forces in the combat zone will not have to file their income tax returns until at least 180 days after they depart the Persian Gulf.

Note: The Executive order is listed in Appendix E at the end of this volume.

Remarks to Participants in the March for Life Rally

January 22, 1991

Once again, it is my distinct honor to address Nellie Gray and those courageous and determined Americans gathered on The Mall for the Rally for Life. January has become—in large part due to the dedication and hard work of the March for Life—a time of reflection, a time of rejuvenation for pro-life forces. And so, I'm pleased that my voice is part of the growing chorus that simply says, "Choose Life."

As I look back at past years' Rally for Life, I am encouraged by the progress which has taken place. Attempts by Congress to expand funding—Federal funding—for abortions have been defeated, and the Supreme Court has taken welcome steps toward reversing its *Roe versus Wade* decision.

Despite these successes, much remains to be done. Abortion on demand continues unabated in this country. And as I have said in the past, this prevalence calls into

question our respect for the fundamental right to life. Government and private sector must be more involved in encouraging alternatives such as adoption.

And you, the thousands of tireless volunteers who have gathered here from across the United States, must make it your goal to keep this issue alive and predominant in the Halls of Congress, the courts, and in the minds of the American people.

Thank you for your commitment, and God bless you.

*Note: The President spoke at 12:02 p.m. from the Oval Office at the White House, via an electronic hookup with the rally site. Participants had gathered on the Ellipse for a march to the Supreme Court on the 18th anniversary of the Court's decision of *Roe v. Wade* which legalized abortion. Nellie Gray was president of March for Life.*